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10/791,115

03/02/2004

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04/29/2005

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EXAMINER

NASRI, JAVAID H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/791,115

Applicant(s)

COLOMBO ET AL.

Examiner

Javaid Nasri

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/2/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the
  - a) a keypad, a keyed display, a keyless display, an LCD display screen and a touch screen, per claim 8,
  - b) a first signal channel and a second signal channel, etc, per claim 10,
  - c) a substrate connected to the cover, per claim 15,must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will

be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pimpinella (5,461,693, cited in IDS).

Pimpinella discloses, **for claim 1**, a distribution frame (10), the distribution frame including at least one shelf (11, 14), and at least one interconnection panel within the at least one shelf, the interconnection panel including a plurality of termination ports for cross-connecting signal channels, and an intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (18, 19) attached to the distribution frame and operably connected to the interconnection panels for operating the distribution frame and monitoring and indicating cross-connections between the interconnection panels, **for claim 10**, an intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (18) for operably coupling to a distribution frame (10), wherein the distribution frame has at least one distribution shelf (11, 14), the distribution shelf having a shelf controller (19) and a plurality of interconnection panels, wherein the interconnection panels include a first plurality of termination ports for connecting to a first signal channel and a second plurality of termination ports for cross-connecting to a second signal channel from a different interconnection panel, the intelligent fiber distribution operations

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administration and maintenance apparatus (18) comprising: a plurality of signal buttons (see figures 2 and 3) corresponding to the plurality of interconnection panels, wherein the signal buttons are attached to the distribution frame and operably connected to the interconnection panels, a plurality of indicators (25) corresponding to the plurality of signal buttons, and an interface operably connecting the plurality of signal buttons to the shelf controller (19), wherein the signal buttons energize their corresponding indicator and, based on information from the shelf controller, the indicators identify termination ports that are connected, to be connected or that need maintenance,

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Colombo et al (6,493,498, cited in IDS).

Colombo et al discloses, **for claim 1**, a distribution frame (see figure 2), the distribution frame including at least one shelf (see figure 2), and at least one interconnection panel within the at least one shelf, the interconnection panel including a plurality of termination ports for cross-connecting signal channels, and an intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (20, 22) attached to the distribution frame and operably connected to the interconnection panels for operating the distribution frame and monitoring and indicating cross-connections between the interconnection panels, **for claims 2 and 11**, the distribution frame has a shelf cover (see figure 2), and wherein the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus is attached to the shelf cover (see figure 2), **for claims 3 and 12**, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus is configured as a shelf cover for the distribution frame (see figure 2), **for claim 4**, the distribution frame includes at least one controller (20) that monitors permissible connections and

cross-connections of the at least one interconnection panel, and wherein the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (22) includes an interface operably connected to the at least one controller, **for claim 5**, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus includes an input interface for the interconnection panel termination ports, **for claim 6**, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (22) includes signal buttons and indicators corresponding to the interconnection panel termination pods, **for claims 7 and 17**, the indicator further comprises an LED indicator, **for claim 8**, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus includes at least one input device selected from the group consisting of a keypad, a keyed display, a keyless display, an LCD display screen, and a touch screen, **for claim 9**, a plurality of interconnection panels and wherein the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus further comprises an array of user inputs that correspond to the interconnection panel termination pods, **for claim 10**, an intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (22) for operably coupling to a distribution frame (see figure 2), wherein the distribution frame has at least one distribution shelf (see figure 2), the distribution shelf having a shelf controller (20) and a plurality of interconnection panels, wherein the interconnection panels include a first plurality of termination ports for connecting to a first signal channel and a second plurality of termination ports for cross-connecting to a second signal channel from a different interconnection panel, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus (22) comprising: a plurality of signal buttons (see figure 2) corresponding to the plurality of interconnection panels, wherein the signal buttons are attached to the distribution frame and

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operably connected to the interconnection panels, a plurality of indicators (22) corresponding to the plurality of signal buttons, and an interface operably connecting the plurality of signal buttons to the shelf controller (20), wherein the signal buttons energize their corresponding indicator and, based on information from the shelf controller, the indicators identify termination ports that are connected, to be connected or that need maintenance, **for claim 13**, a user input apparatus operably connected to the interface, **for claim 14**, the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus is arranged as an array of user inputs that correspond to the interconnection panel termination ports, **for claim 15**, the distribution frame includes a cover (see figure 2) for protecting the distribution shelf, wherein the intelligent fiber distribution operations administration and maintenance apparatus further comprises a planar substrate connected to the cover (not shown, but it is inherent to have a substrate in the system), and wherein the plurality of signal buttons and the plurality of indicators are coupled to the planar substrate, **for claim 16**, the planar substrate has a first surface for coupling to the cover and an opposing second surface, and wherein the plurality of signal buttons and the plurality of indicators are coupled to the second surface of the planar substrate (not shown, but this is a standard method).


### Contact

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Javaid Nasri  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839

JN

Jhn  
April 26, 2005